Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-07 SS-15 ACDA-12 AF-10
ARA-10 EA-10 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
USIA-06 EB-08 NRC-05 SOE-02 DOE-11 /158 W
----------036667 180657Z /11
R 171854Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4742

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 00378

USIAEA

DEPT PASS S/AS, OES/NET AND IO/SCT

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, IAEA, US
SUBJECT: US ATTITUDE TOWARD IAEA

REF: A) STATE 5428, B) 77 VIENNA 9994, C) 77 VIENNA 9233

1. RECEIPT REFTEL A PROMPTS ME TO URGE BROAD DEPARTMENT CONSIDERATION WHETHER US ATTITUDE TOWARD IAEA SHOULD, GENERALLY SPEAKING, NECESSARILY BE CONSISTENT WITH ATTITUDE TOWARD UN AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES OR WHETHER OUR RELATIONSHIP TO IAEA SHOULD BE TREATED AS SOMEWHAT EXCEPTIONAL AND OUTSIDE THE NORMAL ORBIT OF THE UN AND ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES.

2. THE ISSUE RAISED IN REFTEL A, NAMELY THE COMPOSITION OF THE IAEA GENERAL COMMITTEE, IS A COMPARITIVELY MINOR ONE. WHILE I RECOGNIZE THE PROBLEMS FACING US IN THE UN, I AM CONCERNED AT THE RATIONALE PROVIDED IN THE DEPT'S MESSAGE, WHICH IN EFFECT INDICATES THAT WE CANNOT TAKE A CONFIDENTIAL

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POSITION IN THE IAEA WHICH WOULD DIFFER FROM THAT WE TAKE IN THE UN AND ITS SPECIALIZED AGENCIES, DESPITE OUR STRONG AND POSSIBLY OVERRIDING NON-PROLIFERATION INTERESTS.

3. A FURTHER CASE IN POINT IS THE SUGGESTION CONTAINED REFTEL C THAT DEPARTMENT CONSIDER EXCEPTIONAL TREATMENT OF AGENCY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BY FUNDING IT FROM THE

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REGULAR BUDGET OF IAEA. GIVEN RESPONSE FROM OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES THAT HAVE CONSIDERED THIS PROPOSITION, SPECIFICALLY CANADA AND FRG, I RECOGNIZE MISSION PROPOSAL CONTAINED REFTEL C IS PROBABLY A NON-STARTER BUT IS, NEVERTHELESS, SYMPTOMATIC OF THE TYPE OF FRESH CONSIDERATION I BELIEVE IS CALLED FOR.

4. THE US IS PLACING HEAVY RELIANCE ON A HIGHLY EFFECTIVE AND INDEPENDENT IAEA AS A VEHICLE TO IMPLEMENT A KEY ASPECT OF US FOREIGN POLICY. THEREFORE I BELIEVE WE SHOULD BE PREPARED, IF CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT, TO EMPLOY A GREATER DEGREE OF FLEXIBILITY IN OUR ACTIONS VIS-A-VIS THE IAEA.

5. COMMENT: I RECOGNIZE THIS WILL SOUND PAROCHIAL BUT THIS RECONSIDERATION SEEMS WARRANTED IN VIEW OF CONGRESSIONAL AND PRESIDENTIAL INTEREST IN THE EFFECTIVE FUNCTIONING OF THE IAEA. STONE

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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